

MANUEL ÁLVAREZ BRAVO

BIO

Manuel Álvarez Bravo, one of the founders of modern photography worldwide, is considered the greatest representative of 20th century Latin American photography. His work spans from the late 1920s to the 1990s.

He is an emblematic figure of the post-Mexican Revolution period known as the Mexican Renaissance. This was a period whose richness was due to the happy, though not always serene, coexistence of a desire for modernisation and the search for an identity with its own roots, in which archaeology, history and ethnology played a significant role, parallel to the arts. Álvarez Bravo embodied both trends in the field of the plastic arts. From 1943 to 1959 he worked in the cinema, producing still photographs, which led him to produce some personal experiments.

During his lifetime, he presented more than 150 solo exhibitions and participated in more than 200 group exhibitions. According to many critics, the work of this "poet of the lens" expresses the essence of Mexico, but the humanist outlook reflected in his work and the aesthetic, literary and musical references it contains also give it a universal dimension.

CURRICULUM

COLLECTIONS

Instituto Nacional de Bellas Artes (Museo de Arte Moderno, México)

Fundación Televisa, México

Fomento Cultural Banamex, México

Bibliothèque Nationale, París

Museo de Arte Moderno de la Ciudad de París

Fonds National d'Art Contemporain, Francia

Colección Erna y Víctor Hasselblad, Leverkusen, Suecia

Instituto de Arte de Chicago

George Eastman House, Rochester

Museo de Arte de Pasadena

GALERÍA BLANCA BERLÍN

Museo de Arte Moderno de Caracas

Museo de Arte Moderno de Kioto

Museo de Arte Moderno de Nueva York

Museo J. Paul Getty, Los Ángeles

Museo Victoria and Albert de Londres

Museo de Arte Moderno de Filadelfia

Museo de Arte de Nueva Orleans

Centro de Fotografía Creativa, Tucson, Arizona

EXPOSICIONES INDIVIDUALES

2002

National Art Museum, exhibition on the occasion of its 100th anniversary

Macao Museum of Art and several European countries.

2001

J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, retrospective exhibition

1997

The Museum of Modern Art, New York, retrospective

Image Center, Variations

Museum of Photographic Arts (MoPA), Kiyosato, Japan

1996

Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofía, Madrid, Spain

1994

Winter Palace, Beijing

1992

Musée de l'Elysée, Lausanne

1991

Fomento Cultural Banamex, 83 photographs from its collection

1990

Museum of Photographic Arts, San Diego California, touring in the USA

1989

Centro Cultural Arte Contemporáneo

GALERÍA BLANCA BERLÍN

1987

Institute for Contemporary Photography, New York

1986

Museum of Modern Art, Paris

1985

National Library, Madrid

1983

Israel Museum, Jerusalem

1978

Museum of Modern Art, retrospective

The Corcoran Gallery of Art, Washington, D.C.

1972

Palace of Fine Arts

1971

Pasadena Art Museum and The Museum of Modern Art, New York

1968

Palace of Fine Arts

1966

Inés Amor Gallery

1957

Mexican Plastic Arts Salon

1945

Modern Art Society

1932

Posada Gallery

EXPOSICIONES COLECTIVAS

2004

Fondation Henri Cartier-Bresson, Paris, with Henri Cartier-Bresson and Walker Evans,
Documentary and Anti-Graphic

1999

Octavio Paz Foundation, Mexico City

GALERÍA BLANCA BERLÍN

1998

Arboreal Spirits: Manuel Álvarez Bravo and Octavio Paz. Festival Internacional Cervantino, Museo del Pueblo, Guanajuato

1982

Seibu Museum of Art, Tokyo, Photography in the Twentieth Century

1981

Rencontres Internationales de la Photographie, Arles, France with Aaron Siskind, Henri Cartier-Bresson and André Kertész

1979

Rencontres Internationales de la Photographie, Arles, France, with Aaron Siskind, Henri Cartier-Bresson and André Kertész

1967

National Gallery of Canada, Photography in the Twentieth. Century

1961

Bibliothèque Nationale, Paris : Salon International du Portrait Photographique

1955

The Museum of Modern Art, New York: Twenty Centuries of Mexican Art, The Family of Man

1943

Philadelphia Museum of Art: Mexican Art Today

1939

Galerie Renou et Colle, Paris: Exhibition on Mexico organised by André Breton

1935

Museo del Palacio de Bellas Artes, Mexico with Henri Cartier-Bresson

Julien Levy Gallery, New York with Henri Cartier-Bresson and Walker Evans, Documentary and Anti-Graphic

AWARDS

1995

Gold Medal for Photography, National Arts Club of New York.

Leica Medal of Excellence, Leica Camera Group.

Grand Cross of the Order of Merit in Portugal.

1993

Creator Emeritus, National Council for Culture and the Arts, Mexico.

1991

Hugo Erfurth International Award, Leverkusen, Germany and Agfa Gevaert of Leverkusen.

1987

Master of Photography. International Center of Photography, New York.

1984

Erna and Victor Hasselblad Award, Sweden.

1982

Officier de l'Ordre des Arts et Lettres, France.

1975

John Simon Guggenheim Foundation Fellowship.

National Arts Award, Mexico.

1974

Elías Sourasky Award.

1931

First prize in a photography competition financed by the La Tolteca cement company.

1926

First prize in a competition organised by the Feria Regional Ganadera de Oaxaca (Oaxaca Regional Livestock Fair).

PUBLICATIONS

Spies, Werner, *La Révolution Surréaliste*, Centre Georges Pompidou, Paris, 2002.

Sotomayor, Arturo, *Dans la Forêt des Lacandons*, in: *RHINOCEROS féroce*, No, 10, Paris, May-July, 2001.

Gross, Philippe, Ph. D and S. I. Shapiro, Ph. D., *The Tao of Photography, Seeing Beyond Seeing*, Ten Speed Press, Berkeley, Toronto, 2001.

Therond, Roger, *Surréalisme*, Éditions du Chêne, Paris, 2001

Sawamoto, Noriyoshi, *Telling Photographers*, Pelican Co., Japan, 2001

Debroise, Olivier, *Mexican Suite, a History of Photography in Mexico*, University of Texas Press, Austin, 2001

Hirsch, Robert, *Seizing the light. A History of Photography*, Mc Graw Hill International, 2000

S/A, *Photography, from 1839 to Today*, George Eastman House Rochester, NY, Taschen, Cologne, 1999

S/A, *Reflexions in a Glass Eye, Works of The International Center of Photography Collection*, International Center of Photography (ICP), New York, 1999

Masterpieces of The J Paul Getty Museum: Photographs, The J Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles Ca., 1999

Looking at Photographs, 100 Pictures from the Collection o the Museum of Modern Art, Museum of Modern Art, New York, 1999

MEXICANA, *Modern Photography in Mexico, 1923-1940*, IVAM, Centre Julio González, Generalitat Valenciana, Valencia, 1998

Debroise, Olivier, *Fuga Mexicana, Un recorrido por la fotografía en México*, *Lecturas Mexicanas*, fourth series, Dirección General de Publicaciones, CONACULTA, Mexico, 1998.

Paz, Octavio Paz and Manuel Álvarez Bravo, *Espíritus Arbóreos*, Octavio Paz and Manuel Álvarez Bravo, *Poesía y Fotografía*, XXVI Festival Cervantino/CONACULTA/Fundación Octavio Paz, Mexico, 1998.

Rogiers, Patrick, *L'oeil ouvert: Un parcours photographique 1983-1988*, Nathan, Paris, 1998.

Harris, Mark Edward, *Images du XXème. Siècle: Vingt photographes regardent leur temps*, Abbeville Press, New York/Paris, 1998.

Richter, Peter-Cornell, *Nude Photography, Masterpieces from the Past 150 Years*, Prestel-Verlag, Munich/London/New York, 1998

Harris, Mark Edward, *Faces of the Twentieth Century, Master Photographers and their Work*, Abbeville Press Publishers, New York/London/Paris, 1998

Jeffrey, Ian, *The Photography Book*, Phaidon Press, London, 1997

Bäcker, Yona, Juan García de Oteyza and Mónica Amor, *Five Decades of Mexican Photography*, Throckmorton Fine Art, Inc New York, Mexican Cultural Institute of Washington, Washington DC, Mexican Cultural Institute of New York, New York, 1997

Hassner, Rune, *The Hasselblad Awards, 1980-1995*, Erna and Victor Hasselblad Foundation, Gotemburgo, 1996

Bachmann, Dieter and Daniel Schwartz, *So many Worlds, a Photographic Record of our Time*, Thames and Hudson, London, 1996.

Blasco, Victoria and Sandra Benito, *Light and Time. Collection formed by Manuel Álvarez Bravo for the Fundación Cultural Televisa A.C.*, 3 vols. Lucía García-Noriega y Nieto, ed. Centro Cultural Arte Contemporáneo A.C., Fundación Cultural Televisa, Mexico 1995.

Naef, Weston J., The J. Paul Getty Museum: Handbook of the Photographs Collection, The J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles, CA, 1995.

Various authors, Encyclopedia of Latin American History, Charles Scribner's Sons, New York, New York, 1995

Ashton, Dore, "Surrealism in Latin America", in: Latin American Artists of the Twentieth Century, The Museum of Modern Art, New York, 1993.

Westerbeck, Colin and Joel Meyerowitz, Bystander: A History of Street Photography, Bulfinch Press, Boston, 1993

Tibol Raquel, The Writing, Mexican Photographers, 13 x 10, CONACULTA, Fotografíe Forum, Frankfurt, 1992

Castañón, Adolfo, Mexican Portraits 1839-1989, Fondo de Cultura Económica, Mexico, 1991.

Various Authors, Contemporary Masterworks, St. James Press, London, 1991

Álvarez Bravo Manuel, Louise Lawler, Henk Tas, Hugo-Erfurth-Preis 1991, Städtliches Museum Leverkusen, Leverkusen, 1991

Hassner, Rune, Nueve maestros de la fotografía, Centro Hasselblad, Gotemburgo, 1989

Scimè, Giuliana, Immagini famose/ Famous Images, 150 anni di fotografia, 150 años de fotografía, 1839-1989, Corigraf, Génova, 1989

Varios autores, Memoria del Tiempo, 150 años de la fotografía en México, CONACULTA, INBA, MAM, México, 1989

S/A, Nueve maestros de la fotografía, Centro Hasselblad, Gotemburgo, 1989

Szarkowsky, John, Photography Until Now, The Museum of Modern Art, Nueva York, 1989

Billeter, Erika, Immagini dal Messico, Agora, Turín, 1988

Turner, Peter, Historia de la fotografía, Hamlyn/A Bison Book, Londres, 1987

Focus on Minotaure, The Animal-Headed Review, Musée d' Art et d' Histoire, Ginebra, 1987

Mutis, Álvaro, Historia natural de las cosas: 50 fotógrafos, Fondo de Cultura Económica, México, 1985

Sobieszek, Robert A., Masterpieces of Photography from the George Eastman House Collections, Abbeville Press, Nueva York, 1985

S/A, International Center of Photography, Encyclopedia of Photography, Pound Press, Inc./ Crown Publishers, Inc., Nueva York, 1984

Rosenblum, Naomi, A World History of Photograph, Abbeville Press Publishers, Nueva York, 1984

Turner, Peter, Historia de la fotografía, Bison Books, Londres, 1983

Szarkowski, John, 20th-Century Photographs from the Museum of Modern Art, Museo de Arte Moderno, Nueva York, 1982

Jaguer, Édouard, Les Mystères de la chambre noire, Le surréalisme et la photographie, Flammarion, París, 1982

Billeter, Erika y otros, Fotografie Lateinamerika von 1860 bis heute, Kunsthaus Zürich, Zurich, 1981

Whelan, Richard, Double Take, a Comparative Look at Photographs, Clarkson N. Potter, Inc. Publishers, Nueva York, 1981

Varios autores, Contemporary Photographers, St. James Editorial LTD/Macmillan, Londres, 1981

Jeffrey, Ian, Photography: A Concise History, Thames and Hudson, Londres, 1981

Campbell, Bryn ed, World Photography, 25 Contemporary Masters Write about their Work, Techniques and Equipment, Hamlyn, Londres/ Nueva York/Sydney/Toronto, 1981

Gruber, Renate y L. Fritz, Das Imaginäre Photo-Museum, Mit 457 Abbildungen, Das DuMont Bucherverlag Köln, Colonia, 1981

Witkin, Lee D. y Barbara London, The Photograph Collector's Guide, New York Graphic Society, Boston, 1980

Hill Paul, Diálogo con la fotografía, Farrar, Strauss and Giroux, 1979

Coleman, A. D., Lecturas ligeras, escritos de un crítico de fotografía. 1968-1978, Oxford University Press, Nueva York, 1979

A Ten Year Salute, A Selection of Photographers in Celebration, Witkin Lee D., The Witkin Gallery, Nueva York, 1969-1979

Fotografías: A Selected Offering, The Witkin Gallery, Inc, Catálogo VI, Nueva York, 1978

Pitts, Terence y René Verdugo, Fotografía Contemporánea en México, 9 Fotógrafos, Centro de Fotografía Creativa, Universidad de Arizona, Tucson, 1978

Photography Year1977, Edición de los Editores de Time-Life Books, Time-Life Books, Alexandria, Virginia, 1977

Puce-black Bayer, Jonathan / The Photographers' Gallery, Reading Photographs. Understanding The Aesthetics of Photography, Pantheon Books, Nueva York, 1977

Travis, David, Photographs from the Julien Levy Collection Starting with Atget, The Art Institute of Chicago, Chicago, 1976

Osman, Colin y Peter Turner, eds, Creative Camera International Year Book, 1976, Coe Press Ltd., Londres, 1975

Beaton, Cecil y Gail Buckland, The Magic Image, the Genius of Photography from 1839 to the Present Day, Weidenfeld and Nicholson, Londres, 1975

Szarkowski, John, Looking at Photographs: 100 Pictures from the Collection of the Museum of Modern Art, Museum of Modern Art, New York, 1973.

S/A, 1840-1960, Great Photographers, Time-Life Books, New York, 1971

Lyons, Nathan, Photography in the Twentieth Century, National Gallery of Canada, Ottawa, Horizon Press/The George Eastman House, Rochester, NY, 1967

Szarkowski, John, The Photographer's Eye, The Museum of Modern Art, New York, 1966

Newhall, Beaumont, Photography at Mid-Century, George Eastman House, Rochester, NY, 1959

The Family of Man, the Photographic Exhibition Created by Edward Steichen for the Museum of Modern Art, Simon and Shuster/Maco Magazine Corporation, New York, 1955

Mollino, Carlo, Il messaggio della camera oscura, Chiantore, Turin, 1949

Kirstein, Lincoln, The Latin-American Collection of The Museum of Modern Art, The Museum of Modern Art, New York, 1943

Various Authors, Twenty Centuries of Mexican Art, The Museum of Modern Art, New York, 1940

Moro, César and Wolfgang Paalen, International Exhibition of Surrealism: Appearance of the Great Night Sphinx, Galería de Arte Mexicano, Mexico, 1940

Razetti, Ricardo, La coronela, Teatro de las Bellas Artes, Mexico, 1940. [Edition of 50 copies, includes 35 original photographs].

20 Centuries of Art in Mexico, Museum of Modern Art, New York, 1940.

Breton, André, Mexique, Galerie Renou et Colle, Paris, 1939